



# The SAINT LOUIS BLUES

The First Successful Blues Published  
The Most Widely Known  
Ragtime Composition

By **W. C. HANDY**

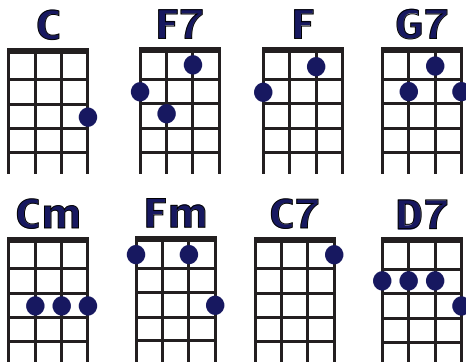
Published by  
PACE & HANDY MUSIC CO.  
MEMPHIS TENN.

Undoubtedly the most long lived and popular blues song ever written is William Christopher Handy's immortal classic, "St. Louis Blues," which has almost taken on a life of its own since it was written over ninety years ago in 1914. It has been played and enjoyed the world over; it's longevity shows no sign of slowing down. Amazingly, "St. Louis Blues" has been recorded more than any other American written song. The first audio recording of St. Louis Blues was by Al Bernard in July 1918. The list of groups that had top twenty hits with "St. Louis Blues" reads like a Who's Who of American pop and jazz musicians and vocalists. In 1925, Bessie Smith teamed with Louis Armstrong for a number 3 ranking and Louis did almost as well solo in 1930. "St. Louis Blues" was always a favorite with vocalists, so it's no surprise that Rudy Vallee, Cab Calloway the Mills Brothers and the Boswell Sisters all had top selling recordings of the song. Jazz legend Benny Goodman had a successful turn with it in 1939.

**St. Louis Blues has been recorded by...**

- |                             |                            |                           |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| The Boswell Sisters         | The Mills Brothers         | Furry Lewis               |
| The Dorsey Brothers         | Louis Armstrong            | Liberace                  |
| Cliff "Ukulele Ike" Edwards | Chet Atkins                | Guy Lombardo              |
| Duke Ellington              | Pearl Bailey               | Duane Eddy                |
| Ferrante & Teicher          | LaVern Baker               | Ramsey Lewis              |
| Ella Fitzgerald             | Tex Benecke                | Herbie Mann               |
| Stephane Grappelli          | Charlie Barnet             | Big Joe Turner            |
| Dizzy Gillespie             | Count Basie                | Rudy Valee                |
| Benny Goodman               | Chuck Berry                | Fats Waller               |
| Erskine Hawkins             | Pat Boone                  | Ethel Waters              |
| Billie Holiday              | Theresa Brewer             | Doc Watson                |
| Al Hirt                     | Big Bill Broozyn           | Lawrence Welk             |
| Lena Horne                  | Charles Brown              | Josh White                |
| The Ink Spots               | Dave Brubeck               | Paul Whiteman             |
| The Isley Brothers          | Ruth Brown                 | Margaret Whiting          |
| Etta James                  | Charlie Byrd               | Bob Wills & His           |
| Harry James Orchestra       | Nat King Cole              | Texas Playboys            |
| Quincy Jones                | Perry Como                 | George Wetting            |
| Stan Kenton                 | Larry Coryell              | Jackie Wilson             |
| King Curtis                 | Natalie Cole               | Jimmy Witherspoon         |
| Eartha Kitt                 | Papa John Creach           | Stevie Wonder             |
| Gene Krupa                  | Bing Crosby                | Jack Teagarden            |
| Leadbelly                   | Eddie Condon               | George Thorogood          |
| Brenda Lee                  | Deep Purple                | & The Destroyers          |
| Peggy Lee                   | Bessie Smith               | Glenn Miller Orchestra    |
| Django Reinhardt            | Dinah Shore                | Felix Mendelssohn         |
| Sun Ra                      | Bobby Short                | & the Hawaiian Serenaders |
| Paul Robeson                | Sons of the Pioneers       | Hugh Montenegro           |
| Sonny Rollins               | Otis Spann                 | Roy Orbison               |
| Jimmy Rushing               | Maxine Sullivan            | Les Paul & Mary Ford      |
| Pete Seeger                 | Ralph Sutton               | Louis Prima               |
| Artie Shaw Orchestra        | Art Tatum                  | Jimmy Reed                |
| Doc Severinsen              | Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown |                           |

**...plus dozens of others!**



UKULELE CLUB OF SANTA CRUZ  
THE "EARLY BLUES" MEETING JUNE 2005  
OUR "ST. LOUIS BLUES" WAS ARRANGED AND LED BY  
JAYME KELLY CURTIS

I hate to see that evening sun go down  
Hate to see that evening sun go down  
Cause the man I love  
He done left - this - town  
Feeling tomorrow like I feel today  
Feel tomorrow like I feel today  
I'll pack my bags  
And make my get - a - way

St. Louis Woman with her diamond rings  
Pulls that man around by her apron strings  
I weren't for powder, and for store bought hair  
The man I love he wouldn't gone no where, no where

I got the St. Louis Blues just as blue as I can be  
That man got a heart like a rock cast in the sea  
Or else he wouldn't have gone so far from me

Now a black headed woman makes a good man leave town  
And a red headed woman makes a good man leave town  
But a blonde headed woman makes a good man slap his papa down

I got the St. Louis Blues just as blue as I can be  
That man got a heart like a rock cast in the sea  
Or else he wouldn't have gone so far from me